

**BEFORE THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Section 20.19 of the Commission's Rules)	WT Docket No. 01-
	309	
Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones)	RM-8658

**Report and Request for Waiver--47 C.F.R. § 20.19(d)(2)
Hearing Aid Compatibility--Inductive Coupling**

Farmers Mutual Telephone Company ("Reporter"), a digital wireless service provider, pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's ("Commission" or "FCC") *Report and Order* in WT Docket No. 01-309, FCC 03-168, 29 CR 1299 (August 14, 2003), hereby files a report concerning the availability of digital phones for the hearing impaired and seeks a waiver of 47 C.F.R. § 20.19(d)(2).¹ This filing does not address the reporting requirements or waiver needs required by the *Report and Order* which are properly addressed by handset manufacturers who are in the best position to report on their own activities.

I. Carrier Information

¹ On July 7, 2004 the FCC published notice that it had obtained OMB approval to collect hearing aid compatibility reports from wireless carriers. 69 Fed. Reg. 40928 (Wednesday, July 7, 2004). Pursuant to the *Report and Order, Amendment of Section 68.4(a) of the Commission's Rules Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones*, 68 Fed. Reg. 54173 (September 16, 2003), reports are due every six months after rule effectiveness for the first three years and then annually for the next two years. The first reports were filed in November 2004. Because the T3 compliance deadline is September 18, 2006, and a report and waiver is required at this time, Reporter's next report shall be filed six months from now on or about March 18, 2007.

Reporter is a small Commercial Mobile Radio Services carrier that provides service in rural Iowa. Reporter has not received a request for a HAC handset.

II. Handset Discussion

Reporter offers one wireless handset to subscribers. The Commission's regulations provide that "mobile service providers that offer two or fewer digital wireless handsets in the U.S. are exempt from the requirements of this section." 47 C.F.R. § 20.19(e)(1). Accordingly, Reporter qualifies for the *de minimis* exemption from the HAC-compliance requirement. Reporter acknowledges that the HAC-compliance rule would become applicable should Reporter offer more than two wireless handset models at some time in the future.

III. Hearing Aid Compatible Handset Labeling/Insert Requirement

Reporter is exempt from the labeling/insert requirement as discussed in Section II above.

IV. Outreach Efforts & Interoperability

Reporter intends to educate its subscribers, and potential subscribers, about the service if and to insure interoperability at such time as Reporter offers more than two wireless handset models.

Respectfully Submitted,

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